Leicester, June 11. 1858.

Dear Mr. May –

There are many who do not feel at all disposed to acquiese in your decision not to come to New-England this Summer, as you had planned to do, and as it has become expected that you would do. It is felt that the reasons for your coming are not less numerous or weighty than they were. And, both for your own health's sake and for the satisfaction of many friends, it is felt that you should, and hoped that you will, reverse your decision. —

I write to you, dear Sir, in a friendly confidence, to ask if your decision, not to make your intended New England visit, grew out of any doubt as to whether you could, just now, afford the pecuniary outlay? That is coming to the point, you may think,

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and think too, that it is none of my business. But, in behalf of others as well as for myself, I would like to know whether this has been a ~~constraining~~ decisive motive & reason with you. If it has been, I know it can be removed; - which is what I want to say to you, and also that we think you ought not to hesitate in speaking plainly on this subject. - You could have time to see your friends, who (you say) intend visiting you from New York, either before or after you have made your visit here. — We all say - "Come by all means - don't give up so good & cherished a plan, unless the reason is peremptory, & the necessity absolute."

Let me hear from you very soon. - I suppose we shall soon be hearing of the arrival of your sons in Europe.

You will probably get the first letters, and you must not fail to let us hear the state of their health, &c.

Should you be ready to leave home now, or at any time, you need not wait to hear further from me, but come directly on, and (if convenient) stop at Leicester on your way, if only for a night. But remember me, at Leicester shall depend on a good, quiet visit from you, and at such time as shall be most agreeable to you to ~~give~~ make it.

Sarah is pretty well now. The rest of the family well. I am decidedly better for this up-country air. — Father (whom I saw yesterday in Boston) is recovering from his attack of Erysipelas — he rides out every pleasant day, and is picking up strength, we think.

With love to Cousins Lucretia, Charlotte, & Bonny, — & kind regards to Miss Coffin, — Affly Yr. Cousin
Samuel May Jr

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